

NORTHIAM,

*February 14th, 1906.*

## To the Chairman and Members of the Rye Rural District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my sixth Annual Report upon the health of the Rye Rural District.

The population of the District according to the Census of 1901 was 7,121, and I have estimated it at the same number for 1905.

There were in all 122 deaths during the year in the District, but by deducting 14 deaths of persons dying in the Rye Union who did not previously belong to the Rural District, and adding two deaths of residents which occurred outside the District, a nett total of 110 deaths is obtained which gives a death rate for the District of 15·4.

Fifty-eight out of the 110 deaths occurred at the age of 65 years or over.

The only death from zymotic disease was one from Whooping Cough, so the zymotic death rate is ·14 per thousand.

Phthisis accounted for 4 deaths, and Tubercular Laryngitis for one death, so the total Tubercle death rate is ·7 per thousand.

Diseases of the Respiratory organs (chiefly Bronchitis in old people) were certified as the cause of 19 deaths, which gives a Respiratory death rate of 2·7 per thousand.

There were 7 deaths from Cancer which is very nearly 1 per thousand, and 15 from affections of the Heart.

Two deaths resulted from accidents and there were two suicides. No death was certified as due to Influenza.

There were 151 births during the year, giving a birth rate of 21·2 per thousand; and there were 19 deaths of children under one year, giving an infant mortality of 125·8 per thousand births; but of these 19 deaths 11 occurred at ages under 1 week.

During the year the following cases of Infectious disease were notified—Diphtheria, 2 cases; Erysipelas, 4 cases; Scarlatina, 4 cases. The case of Diphtheria in Northiam was associated with a neglected and overflowing cesspool which has been remedied, and no further cases occurred. The case of Diphtheria in Beckley was of a mild type. There were two cases of Erysipelas in Icklesham, and one each in Brede and Peasmarsh. None of these cases were associated with obvious sanitary defects, and their origin was obscure. Two cases of Scarlatina occurred in Northiam, and one in Brede, and one in Playden. They were apparently



unconnected, and the source of Infection could not be traced. There were several cases of Roetheln in Northiam in February and March. Whooping Cough was epidemic in East Guldeford in August, and was the cause of a death in Rye Harbour earlier in the year.

There were outbreaks of Anthrax in animals in Beckley in July and November.

Disinfectants are supplied to each of the village Post Offices in the District, so that they may be immediately available in all cases. Sulphur fumigation is carried out by the Sanitary Inspector upon the termination of infectious cases. A site for an Isolation Hospital for the combined Urban and Rural Districts of Rye has been purchased. Building operations have not been commenced, but advertisements have been issued inviting Tenders. In the event of an outbreak of Small Pox, a suitable Marquee is available as a temporary hospital, and arrangements have been made for a suitable site on Cadboro' Farm in the Parish of Rye.

There are no polluted streams and no offensive trades.

The Bakehouses, Slaughter-houses, Dairies, Windmills, and Quarries in the District have been inspected, and found to comply with the Acts of Parliament referring to them.

I have systematically inspected the District, and find that the Sewerage systems in Northiam, Peasmarsh, Winchelsea, and Icklesham are working fairly; a ventilating shaft has been erected at the upper part of the Icklesham sewer. The rest of the District is provided with cesspools which require constant supervision. At Rye Harbour the same conditions obtain as heretofore, but there is a sewage cart for the conveyance of the contents of the cesspools away from the neighbourhood of the houses.

With regard to Water supplies, a Water Tower is being erected on the Rye Union ground to supply the Workhouse and portions of Playden and Rye Foreign with water from the Rye Borough Water Works which already supply Rye Harbour. During the Summer, the water supply of Winchelsea was deficient; this was not due to lack of water, but to the fact that the pipes from Newgate Spring which have very little fall were partially blocked by sediment. This has been remedied and can be prevented in the future by the occasional use of a suction apparatus. The rest of the District is dependent upon wells and springs for its water supply.

Bye-Laws in respect of New Buildings and certain matters in connection with Buildings are in force in the District.

I have the honour to remain, gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

WALTER WYNNE,

*Medical Officer of Health Rye Rural District.*

THE  
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL  
OF  
RYE.

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REPORT  
OF  
MR. WALTER WYNNE,  
Medical Officer of Health,  
FOR THE  
YEAR 1905.

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*Notliam,*  
*14th February, 1906.*